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LETTERS FROM Colonell Morgan

Governour of GLOUCESTER,

AND

Colonell Birch.

Fully relating the maner of the taking of the City and Garrison of *HEREFORD*, with the number slain on both sides, and the particular circumstances at the gaining thereof.

With a perfect List of the names of the prisoners taken therein.

Die Martis 23. *Decemb.* 1645.

ORdered by the Lords in Parliament assembled, That these Letters, with the List, be forthwith printed and published.

Joh. Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

Imprinted at *London* for *John Wright* at the Kings Head in the old Bayley. 24. Decemb. 1645.

LETTERS

FROM

Colonel Morgan

AND

Colonel Birch.

Fully relating the manner of the taking of the City and Garrison of HEREFORD, with the number of the Enemy then slain and the Prisoners taken, as also a perfect List of the names of the principal

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Printed at Rome for John Hodges at the Kings Head in the old Bayley.

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For the Right Honourable the Committee of Lords and Commons for the ſafety of both Kingdomes theſe,

May it pleaſe your Lordſhips:

ACcording unto your Commands I drew forth neere nine hundred Foot, and my Troop of Horſe, and upon advice from the Governour of Glouceſter I marched unto him, but finding the way which was intended altogether fruſtrate, and the Governour of Glouceſter not very well, I went with Sir *John Bridger* neere to Hereford, and ſent for thither the two Gentlemen who Sir *John* had treated withall about the buſineſſe, who were then out of Hereford fearing to come to Towne, whon I ſatisfied my ſelfe of the Enemies ſecurity, and the negligence of the Guards, which cauſed me to thinke of ſome other way; and amongſt others this was moſt prevalent with me, which by Gods bleſſing tooke effect, the way was his; To march in one day and night to Hereford from Glouceſter, which done I had provided ſixe men in the forme of Labourers, and one with them to be a Conſtable, with a warrant to bring theſe men to worke in the Towne to them, I gave a good ſumme of Money in hand, and promiſed them a large reward; theſe men with 150. Fire-locks in the darke of the night I intended to lodge neere the Gate, and ſo neere them as the ground would admit out of ſight; I intended to draw a Body to ſecond them and enter with them, and ſo to ſurpriſe the Towne upon the letting downe the Bridge in the morning; then I came backe to Glouceſter and enformed Col. *Morgan* of it, deſiring him to joyne with me to put it to tryall,

which he condeſcended unto, and we marched munday to that purpoſe all night, but fell ſhort, and therefore to delude the Enemy retreated backe within nine miles of Glouceſter; the next day at night we returned againe, and with carefull Spies and Scouts kept back intelligence from them, ſo that they never diſcovered us; but I laid my Country-men and Firelockes within three quarters Musket ſhot, a place which I had enquired out for the purpoſe, which Party I left to be managed by my Lievtenant Colonell, who behaved himſelfe very gallantly, and the maine body of Foot I led my ſelfe, Col. *Morgan* being with the Body of Horſe which he undertooke; and this morning upon the letting downe of the Bridge the Country-men went with their Pickaxes and Spades to the Bridge, the Guard beginning to examine them, they killed three of the Guard, and kept the reſt in play untill the Fire-locks came up to them, then made good untill the Body came up; and it pleaſed God the Deſigne ſo tooke, that we entred the Towne with ſmall loſſe; in which we had 11. peeces of Ordnance, much Armes, and the Priſoners here inſerted, there being many more in Towne as I beleeve, which one day will diſcover. The Mercy is wonderfull, I deſire the Lord may have the honor of it, for it is his own Work. I am deeply ingaged by Monies laid out in this buſineſſe, and by promiſe with Col. *Morgan*; I humbly deſire your Honours to give Order for the Summe you were pleaſed to give Order for this buſineſſe, and for my ſelfe I ſhall endeavour to ſettle this place, and waite the further Orders for the ſubſiſtance of my Regiment which is in great neceſſity, or what other Commands you ſhall be pleaſed to ſignifie unto

Your Honours moſt faithfull Servant.

John Birch.

I have herewith ſent my Servant to waite upon your Honours, by whom I intreate to receive your Commands.

Hereford Decemb.
the 18th. 1645.

For the Right Honourable the Committee of both Kingdomes theſe.

May it pleaſe your Lordſhips;

WE gave you an account in our laſt that we found the City of *Hereford*, by our Intelligence to be ſo ſtrong, both in it ſelfe and the reſolution of the Defendants, that much hazard would be in the gaining of it; Notwithſtanding, having a party of about 2000. Horſe and Foot betwixt us, *viz.* of *Glouceſter* Forces 1050. and of *Bathe* Forces 950. reſolved to make tryall by falling on upon the place; unto which endeavour the Lord was pleaſed ſo to adde his bleſſing, that this morning about breake of day we forced our entrance, God putting ſuch a ſpirit into the Souldier, as was beyond expreſſion: Our ingagements to them was very large, the deſigne being very deſperate, and alſo to ſome other Gentlemen who were very helpfull, and behaved themſelves very gallantly in the falling on: Which ingagements, that we may be able to diſcharge, we humbly deſire your Lordſhips to give Order for that ſumme which you were pleaſed to promiſe for this ſervice. After they had marched this night in the ſnow up to the mid-legge, almoſt twenty miles in and out, which that the Enemy might not be jealous of, we marched the ſame march upon Munday night, though with ſuch hardſhip, that three of our men died in the ſnow, and retreated upon Tueſday almoſt to *Glouceſter*, they then beleeving we had beene cleare gone, were more ſecure, and we fell on unexpected; Our loſſe was not conſiderable, God be bleſſed, whoſe goodneſſe was plainely ſeene, (to him be the glory.) The Enemy fought it out in the ſtreets, where

divers are ſlaine, and the reſt priſoners: We are not able at preſent to particularize them, onely thoſe whoſe names wee can at this inſtant be informed of we have here inſerted. The Townesmen have ſuffered by the Souldier, by reaſon weeentred it by force, and that the Enemy ſhot out at the windowes and in the ſtreets, the Souldier was ſo inraged that we could not prevent them from plundering, which we indeavoured much to have done, and ſhall be alwaies ready to approve our ſelves

Your Honours moſt faithfull Servants

Hereford, 18. *Decemb.* 1645.

THOMAS MORGAN,
JOHN BIRCH.

For the Right Honourable the Committee of Lords and Commons for the ſafety of both Kingdomes.

May it pleaſe your Lordſhips,

ACcording to your Commands I marched with the party, as in a former Letter ſigned by Coll. *Morgan* and my ſelfe, we made bold to informe you, ſince which time it hath pleaſed the Lord to ſhew his power in our weakneſſe, by giving us this City, into which we forced our entry this morning, as in the Letter ſigned by Colonell *Morgan* and my ſelfe more particularly appeares; the Reſolution of the Souldier carryed them on beyond imagination. I ſhall indeavour to ſet things in order here, according to that Com-

Command your Lordſhips have been pleaſed to give me, (the place is very evill affected,) I have here 900. Foote, but they will be too ſmall a number; I intend to adde to them, if your Honours pleaſe, and make them up 1200. which will be few enough for this ill-affected place. When I marched hither I left two Companies at *Bathe*, which being it is to be ſlighted, I ſhall humbly deſire an order for the drawing of thoſe two Companies to this place, which would be a good addition. I ſhould have waited upon your Honours my ſelfe, but I dare not be abſent, though my extreamity be great for neceſſaries for my poore Souldiers; I ſhall humbly intreate you to ſignifie your further Commands in that or any other thing, which ſhall be carefully obſerved by

Hereford, Decemb. 18. 1645.

Your reall Servant
JOHN BIRCH.

Priſoners taken at *Hereford* by the Governour of *Glouceſter*, and Colonell *Birch* now Governour thereof, Decemb. 18. 1645.

THe L. *Brudenell*
Sir *Tho. Lunsford*
Sir *Walter Blunt*
Sir *Henry Spiller*
Sir *Henry Bedington.*
Sir *Marmaduke Floyd*
Sir *George Vaughan.*
Sir *Giles Mompaſſion*
Sir *John Stepney*
Sir *Francis Howard*
Sir *Francis Floyd*
Sir *Richard Baſſett*
Sir *Philip Jones*
Sir *Edward Morgan.*
Sir *Nicholas Throgmorton*
Lieutenant Col. *Price*
Lieutenant Col. *Lewes*
Lieutenant Col. *Jefferies*

Lieu-

Lieutenant Col. *Jones.*
Major *Price*
Judge *Ienkins*
Captaine *William Hill*
Capt. *Thomas Codwallis*
Capt. *Richard Ballard*
Lieutenant *Gibs*
Coronet *Denley*
Coronet *Blood*
Coronet *Tanton*
Quartermaſt. *Stephenſon*
Comiſary *Linging.*
Secretary *Barne*
Mr. *George Blunt*
Mr. *Thomas Blunt*
Mr. *Edward Blunt*
Mr. *Windſor*
Mr. *Iames Anderſon*
Mr. *Turbervile*
Mr. *Henry Morgan*
Mr *Iohn Philips* } Prieſts.
Mr. *Iohn Tailor* }
Mr. *William Chambers*
Mr. *Venner*
Peter Morlet a Frenchman
Mr. *Roger Bodnam*

Mr. *Thomas Bodnam*
Mr. *Terringham*
Mr. *Seabourne*
Mr. *William Chambers*
Mr. *Matthew Moſe*
Mr. *Iohn Bemond*
Mr. *David Powell*
Mr. *Harrington.*
Mr. *Powell* } Chirurgions
Mr. *Watſon* }
Mr. *Iohn Riſden*
Mr. *Iohn Tooley*

Troopers.

Walter Higgins
Samuel Gembrell
Buxley
Richards
Benet Whitingdon
Iohn Lingdo
Thomas Towſey
Thomas Stoaks
Iames Newton
Iohn Scriven
Iohn Barns.
Mr. *Roode.*

FINIS.

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